

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MAY 29, 2002**

Members Present: Matthew Smith, Chairman; Per Bang-Jensen, Vice-Chairman; Harry Atherton; Gary Christie; Laurence Mason; R. E. Moore; Dave Cubbage; Sam Poles and Liz Cook.

Members Absent: Ann McCarty

Staff Present: Fran Williams

A site visit was made to review crossover concerns on Route 29 prior to the regular meeting. Bob Moore stated that he and Dave Cubbage will take pictures of the crossovers and make a presentation at the next meeting. Harry Atherton suggested that VDOT decide on its recommendations concerning which crossovers should be closed before it is sent to the Board of Supervisors since Route 29 is multi-jurisdictional. Bob Moore stated that he does not expect to get anything to the Board of Supervisors before the end of summer.

1. Consider Approval of March 27, 2002 and April 24, 2002 Committee Meeting Minutes.

On motion made by Harry Atherton and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to approve the March 27, 2002 and April 24, 2002 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discuss Taking Baldwin Ridge Subdivision Roads Into State System (South Run Road, Honeysuckle Road and Valley Drive) – Wendy West.

The Committee looked at the roads in the Baldwin Ridge Subdivision while on its site visit today. Liz Cook briefed the Committee on the status of the roads. Ms. Cook stated that Wendy West contacted Paul McCulla, who has informed her that it is now up to the residents of Baldwin Ridge Subdivision to get the right-of-way issue settled. Mr. McCulla has forwarded copies of all the title research information to Ms. West. Harry Atherton suggested waiting until the new Scott District representative has been appointed to the Committee before making a decision on these roads. ***Liz Cook will contact Wendy West to give her the name of the new Scott District representative so that Ms. West can contact him. (JUNE ACTION ITEM)***

Harry Atherton stated that the Board of Supervisors has referred the Lake Drive access issue to the Transportation Committee. The Committee will discuss making a recommendation concerning the three (3) options at its next meeting if the Scott District representative is present at its next meeting. ***(JUNE ACTION ITEM)***

3. Receive an Update on Kelly Road Sight Distance.

Bob Moore informed the Committee that VDOT has recently trimmed some trees along Kelly Road to improve the sight distance. Committee members also toured this road on their sight visit prior to its meeting and did not notice any major problems.

4. *Receive an Update on the Commonwealth Transportation Board Actions.*

Bob Moore stated that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will adopt the final Six-Year Plan, which should include funding for the preliminary engineering and right-of-way work on the Opal project.

Mr. Moore stated that construction is scheduled to begin in 2006, but he is still waiting for clarification on just how much funding is available. Mr. Moore stated that the Route 17/28 interchange in Bealeton is no longer in the Six-Year Plan because of a lack of funding.

Mr. Moore further stated that VDOT does not currently have construction funds for the Route 215 project, but once his office receives an environmental document, a Public Hearing can be scheduled.

Per Bang-Jensen asked if the Route 28 widening is still in the Six-Year Plan. Bob Moore stated that the Route 28 bridge project, which would take out the old bridge in Catlett, is still in the Six-Year Plan. Mr. Moore stated that one bridge would be constructed, with VDOT purchasing a four-lane right-of-way.

Matthew Smith inquired about the work on Interstate 66 off Route 17, which would extend the acceleration lane. Mr. Moore stated that there is no funding for this project at this time.

5. *Review and Make Recommendation on the Six-Year Plan.*

Bob Moore stated that revisions have been made to the Six-Year Plan in order to compensate for the cuts in funds, which have been cut by approximately one-third. Mr. Moore stated that the Six-Year Plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at its June meeting.

Harry Atherton suggested that the Moss Hollow Road (Route 728) project be moved to FY 2003-2004 since a citizen's meeting has not been held and he has not had the opportunity to speak with all the residents on the road. Mr. Atherton noted that some residents of Moss Hollow Road have already expressed opposition to the project.

On motion made by Harry Atherton and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to forward the Six-Year Plan, with the Moss Hollow Road project being moved to FY 2003-2004, to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation of approval. The motion carried unanimously. (***SEE ATTACHMENT***)

6. *Discuss "Smart Solutions" for Interstate 81 Improvements.*

Harry Atherton stated that Committee members have been given a copy of a May 13, 2002 letter he received from Smart Solutions, which is a coalition of manufacturers, shippers, truckers, safety experts, truck industry vendors, Chambers of Commerce, citizens and industry associations. Smart Solutions states in its letter that they have "the goal of promoting much needed improvements to I-81 and to enhancing safety, reducing congestion and promoting economic prosperity along the corridor."

Mr. Atherton further stated that the letter refers to the "Star Solutions plan", which would increase truck tolls on I-81, forcing many trucks to use alternative routes. Mr. Atherton and Mr. Moore both expressed concern that this would increase truck traffic on heavily traveled Route 29. Mr. Atherton stated that he will do some further research to determine exactly what is involved in this proposal and requested that Committee members review the letter and consider if the issue is serious enough to ask the Board of Supervisors to take a position on it. (***JUNE AGENDA ITEM***)

7. *Reconsider Abandoning a Portion of Wesley Chapel Road.*

Matthew Smith advised the Committee that a letter has been received from Ms. Lori Bakewell, who originally made the request to have a portion of Wesley Chapel Road abandoned. Ms. Bakewell is requesting that her request be withdrawn.

On motion made by Harry Atherton and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors *not* hold a Public Hearing to consider abandoning a portion of Wesley Chapel Road. The motion carried unanimously.

8. *Receive an Update on the Following Items: Tuckers Lane; Zulla Road; Warrenton Weigh Station and Liberty High School Flashing Lights.*

Tuckers Lane

Liz Cook provided the Committee with copies of all the communications that Bob Moore was able to find concerning Tuckers Lane. *Mr. Moore stated that he will try to locate a letter that he may be missing confirming that the Board of Supervisors recommended accepting just a short flat section of this road. (JUNE AGENDA ITEM)*

Zulla Road

Bob Moore stated that he has spoken with Sheriff Joe Higgs and Ms. Suzanne Lamb, who lives on Zulla Road, about lowering the speed limit on a portion of each end of Zulla Road to 45 mph and 50 mph for the middle portion. The speed limit for trucks within the 50 mph zone will be posted at 45 mph. Mr. Moore stated that VDOT will monitor the effectiveness of the reduced speed limits for a few months before considering Ms. Lamb's request to have the passing zones closed.

Weigh Station

Bob Moore stated that the contractor's target completion date is July 2002. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will install a scale pit to spot-check some trucks. There will also be sensors in the pavement to detect overweight vehicles. Mobile units with computer equipment will be brought in periodically to man the weigh station.

Liberty High School Flashing Lights

Bob Moore stated that the School Board is in the process of checking to see if the necessary funding is available for this project. *(JUNE AGENDA ITEM)*

9. *Discuss the Process/Tracking for Requests for Private Roads to Become Part of the VDOT Secondary Road System for Maintenance.*

Dave Cabbage presented the Committee with a revised form to track private road requests. The form has also been provided in electronic format to Liz Cook and Fran Williams, who will maintain the request files. Committee members unanimously agreed to begin the new record keeping process with the Baldwin Ridge Subdivision streets.

10. *Other Items.*

Liz Cook stated that the Planning Office receives a large number of subdivision applications that include private streets. Ms. Cook stated that the County currently has virtually no design or construction requirements in place for private streets.

Sam Poles asked if it would be advisable to form a sub-committee to conduct a study to come up with a recommendation on street standards. Harry Atherton suggested that the Committee wait as

this item should be addressed by the Planning Commission during its review of proposed changes to the Subdivision Ordinance.

Per Bang-Jensen stated that he is still hoping for a moratorium on private streets. Mr. Bang-Jensen further stated that he would like to determine what other jurisdictions are doing in regard to private streets.

Bob Moore suggested that the Committee consider placing a moratorium on accepting any new private road requests to the Rural Addition due to the lack of funds. (*JUNE AGENDA ITEM*)

Sam Poles stated that there are some overgrown limbs on Fox View Drive near the Training Center covering a road sign. Bob Moore will look into the matter.

Per Bang-Jensen expressed concern that the bike trail now ends on Meetze Road, which means that a number of bicyclists are traveling that road along with the large volume of truck traffic. Mr. Bang-Jensen stated that he is trying to determine if it would be possible for the bikers to Route 670 to Lunsford Road to Green Road. Mr. Bang-Jensen stated that he will try to determine if the residents on Lunsford Road want this section paved to accommodate the bicyclists.

Gary Christie advised the Committee that the Rappahannock-Rapidan Planning District is currently working on two (2) studies. The first is a commuter study, which will identify where people are going, their travel patterns and similar information. The second is a telecommuting study, which might be used for future grants. Mr. Christie suggested that the Committee might want to have Butch Davies, who is our new Commonwealth Transportation Board member, visit the Committee.

Gary Christie advised the Committee that the proposed Remington Bike Signage plan has made the T-21 grant list. The Bealeton Library did not make the list, but it was ranked high.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.